

THE RIVER OF CANOES TOUR



Castle Rock, ca. 1890

The Cannon River has a storied past in the annals of state history. "Inyan Bo sdata Wakpa" (River of the Standing Rock), was the name of the river given by the Dakota people. Located near Castle Rock, MN, this name referenced the sandstone spire as a signpost for travel. Later, early French explorers dubbed the river "La Rivieres Aux Canots," meaning literally, "The River of Canoes." This name was in reference to the large amount of canoe traffic on the Cannon River of that day.

The tour will be a total of several miles, from the foot of Cannon Lake to the confluence of the Cannon and Straight Rivers. The focus will be on the Faribault Woolen Mill and the H.H. King Millsite, and includes other stories that lie between the two businesses on each end of the tour.



H.H. King Millsite 1862

Home to Gold Mine flour and household names like King, Bean, and Sheffield, the waterpower at this site on the foot of Cannon Lake was first harnessed by Alexander Faribault in 1862. Flour was ground here for about 100 years. To support the H.H. King Mill, a colony grew up around it to offer groceries, a hotel, company housing, and hardware to the mill company and its employees. See more details about the colony on back. The mill burned in 1975.

H.H. King Millsite (17-Ft. Dam)

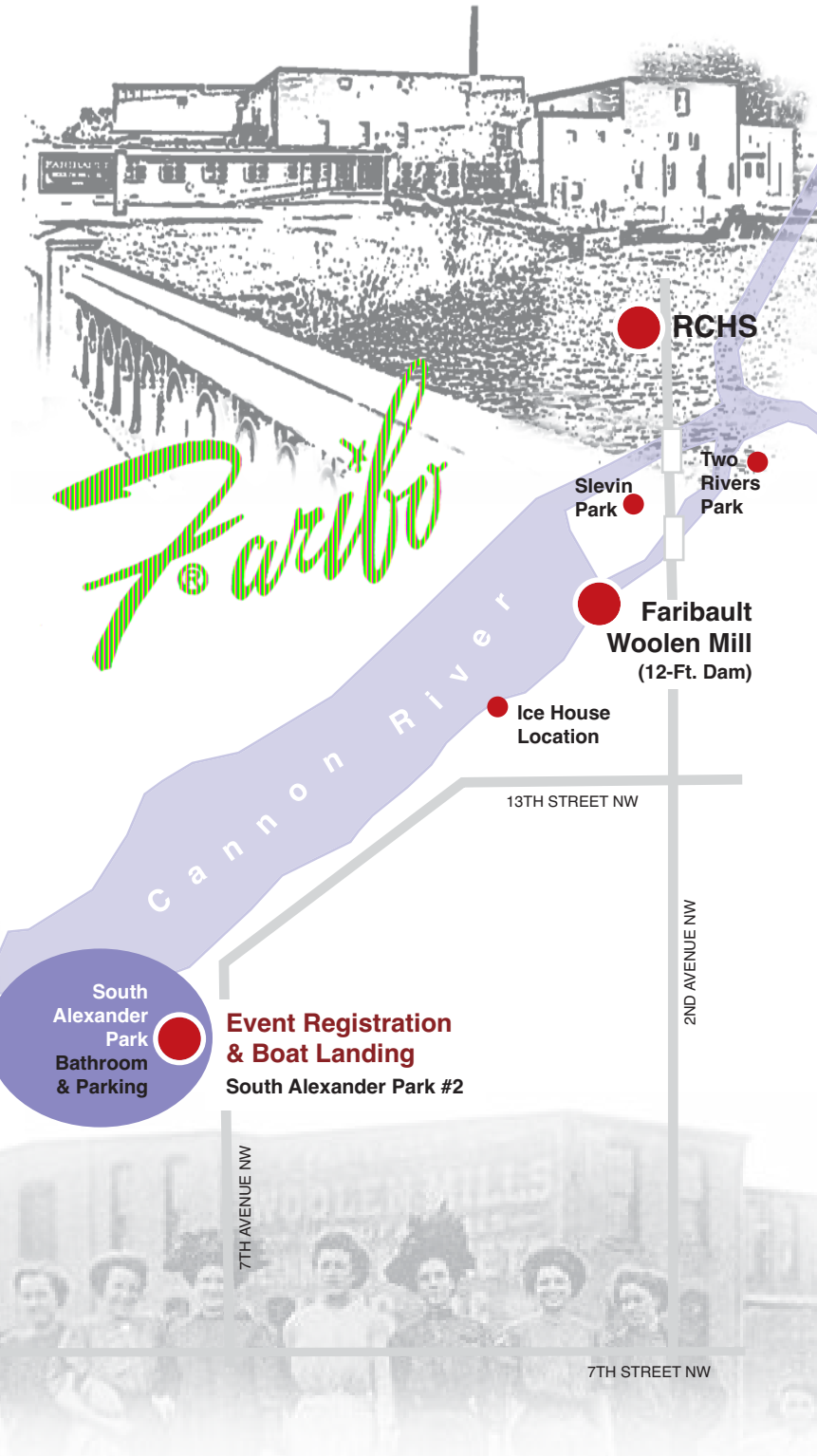


The Matteson Mill 1865

H. M. Matteson and his partner Hulett chose the property on the Cannon River in north Faribault to build a grist mill and dam. They milled flour for 27 years here until the mill burned. Carl Klemer came along and purchased the Matteson Mill property in 1892.

Faribault Woolen Mill 1892

Carl Klemer and sons purchased the burned out Matteson Mill and quickly rebuilt using local red brick. Blanket manufacturing operations utilized waterpower captured by a turbine until the early 1930s, at which time generation of electricity to power the mill became more efficient. The Woolen Mill has provided jobs for thousands of people over the years, and has operated at this location since 1892.



Lyndale Ave. Bridge

Hulett Ave. Bridge

Iowa, Chicago & Eastern Railroad Trestle

White Sands Dog Park

Kelly's Junkyard

Nagel's Bait Shop

7TH STREET NW

LYNDALE AVENUE

HULETT AVENUE

7TH AVENUE NW

2ND AVENUE NW

13TH STREET NW

7TH STREET NW

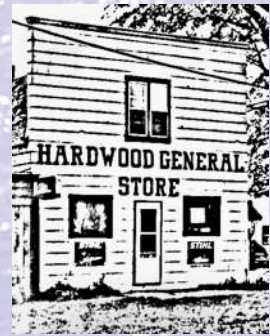
South Alexander Park Bathroom & Parking

Event Registration & Boat Landing South Alexander Park #2



The King Mill Neighborhood, ca. 1900

When Sheffield Milling Company purchased this millsite, they brought big-time milling to Faribault. M.B. Sheffield enlarged the mill, and around 1900, he partnered with H.H. King of Minneapolis. The mill business flourished and became the center of the neighborhood. Around the mill you could find employee housing, hotel lodging, grocery and hardware stores. See a map below of the mill complex and neighborhood from around 1900.

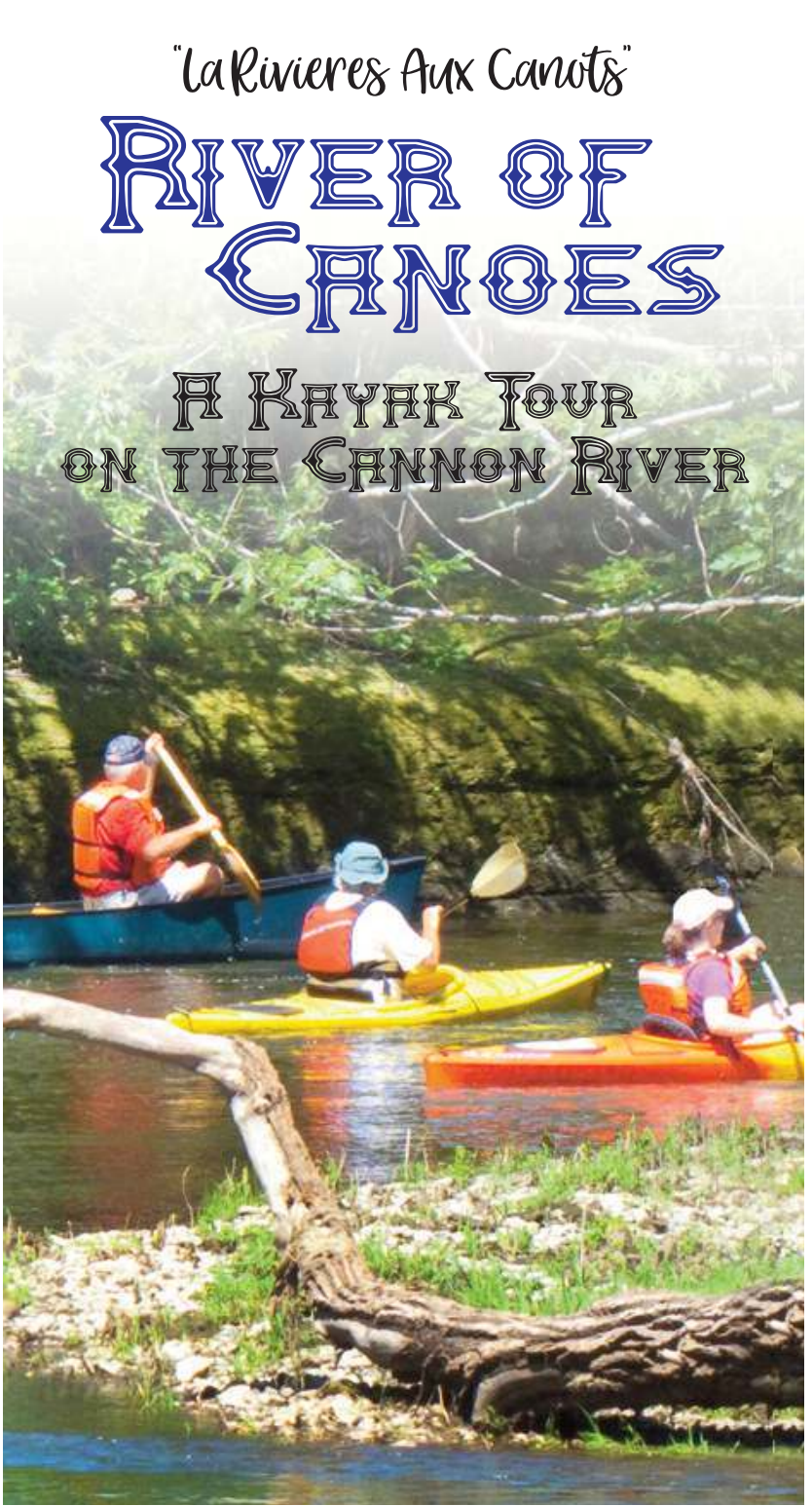


Hardwood General Store

This store is one of several surviving remnants of the colony that once existed around the King Mill neighborhood. Operated by Dave Kral, the Hardwood General Store offers Stihl chainsaw sales and service and antique wood-burning stoves!

"La Rivieres Aux Canots"
RIVER OF CANOES

A KAYAK TOUR ON THE CANNON RIVER



Rice County Historical Society



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Rice County Historical Society - Since 1926!

The Rice County Historical Society was founded in 1926 with the mission of "discovery, preservation and dissemination of the knowledge of the history of Rice County." Today we are located on the east side of the fairgrounds and continue to collect and share the history of the county through our museum buildings, exhibits, research, and educational programs, including History Camp, one-room school and log cabin experiences for youth, school tours, public programs, and workshops.

Brochure Design, Photography and Illustrations

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